

# BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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July 24, 2007

The Honorable David E. Power, Presiding Judge  
Superior Court, State of California, County of Solano  
Hall of Justice  
530 Union Avenue  
Fairfield, CA 94533

Dear Judge Power:

Under Penal Code sections 933 and 933.05, the Board of Supervisors is responding to the findings and recommendations in the following 2006/2007 Grand Jury Reports as they pertain to matters under the control of the Board of Supervisors:

- Part I – Solano County Justice Center Detention Facility Inspection;
- Part II – Solano Justice Building Court Holding Facility – Vallejo;
- Part III – Claybank Detention Facility;
- Part IV – Solano County Veterans' Buildings;
- Part V – Solano County Health & Social Services Department In-Home Supportive Services;
- Part VI – Fouts Springs Youth Facilities;
- Part VII – Solano County Food Establishment Inspection;
- Part VIII – Permission to Carry a Concealed Weapon;
- Part IX – Juvenile Detention and New Foundations Facilities; and
- Part X – Solano County Animal Care Services.

The Board's responses are limited to those areas of the respective reports where the County of Solano has responsibility and authority.

In this response, the Grand Jury Findings and Recommendations are listed followed by departmental and then Board of Supervisors' responses.

Sincerely,

  
Michael J. Reagan, Chairman  
Solano County Board of Supervisors

Enclosures

Cc: Grand Jury

**Solano County Board of Supervisors  
Response to Grand Jury  
July 24, 2007**

**Part I**

**Solano County Justice Center Detention Facility Inspection**

**Issued April 27, 2007**

**Solano County Sheriff and Board of Supervisors responses to the findings and recommendations:**

Finding 1 – Policy and procedure are consolidated into one operating manual for the Fairfield and Claybank Detention Facilities.

Recommendation 1 – None.

Sheriff's Response to Finding #1 – The Sheriff's Office concurs with the finding of the Grand Jury. The policies and procedures of the Sheriff's Office are continually being reviewed, updated and consolidated to reduce liability and ensure consistent operation of the detention facilities.

***Board of Supervisors' Response to Finding and Recommendation 1 – The Board of Supervisors agrees with the Department's response to the Grand Jury's finding and recommendation.***

Finding 2 – The Jail Management Team, Facility Inspection Team and the Facility Search Team were created to enhance overall operations.

Recommendation 2 – The teams should remain in place as part of the overall operations of the Sheriff's Department.

Sheriff's Response to Finding and Recommendation 2 – The Sheriff's Office concurs with the finding of the Grand Jury. The teams have encouraged open communications between the ranks enabling potential safety and security issues to be addressed and corrected in a timely manner. These teams have become an integral part of the Custody Division. Currently the Custody Management Team is meeting on a monthly basis. The Facility Inspection Team is routinely walking throughout the facilities inspecting and documenting safety and security issues that may arise. The Facility Search Team continues operations as needed.

***Board of Supervisors' Response to Finding and Recommendation 2 – The Board of Supervisors agrees with the Department's response to the Grand Jury's finding and recommendation.***

Finding 3 – The Sheriff's Department Custody Division entered into a contract with Legal Research Associates, which has enhanced the ability of inmate's to access legal material and reduced inmate complaints relating to accessing legal material.

Recommendation 3 – The contract should remain in place allowing inmates to continue to participate in the service.

Sheriff's Response to Finding and Recommendation 3 – The Sheriff's Office concurs with the finding of the Grand Jury. The contract with Legal Research Associates (LRA) has been in place since October 1, 2005. To date, we are satisfied with the level of service and the working relationship that has developed between staff and LRA. Provided the quality of service continues at present level this contract will be reevaluated for renewal prior to the expiration date of September 30, 2008.

***Board of Supervisors' Response to Finding and Recommendation 3 – The Board of Supervisors agrees with the Department's response to the Grand Jury's finding and recommendation.***

Finding 4 – Occasionally adult and juvenile inmates are within hearing distance of each other when detained at the Superior Court Holding Cells.

Recommendation 4 – Dialog should continue between the Sheriff's Department, Probation Department and the Superior Court with the goal of correcting this situation as indicated in the Corrections Standard Authority report.

Sheriff's Response to Finding and Recommendation 4 – The Sheriff's Office concurs with the finding of the Grand Jury. A dialog has been established between the Sheriff's Office, Probation Department and the Superior Court and will continue with the goal of correcting the situation indicated in the Corrections Standard Authority report. The Sheriff has formally noticed the Probation Department that this situation must be corrected. In order for the appropriate change to occur the Probation Department and the Superior Court must change the location of juvenile hearings. Any independent action taken by the Sheriff to prevent the Probation Department from utilizing existing holding facilities will result in a significant disruption of the Juvenile Justice System. Our continuing goal is to resolve this issue prior to our next annual inspection by Corrections Standards Authority.

***Board of Supervisors' Response to Finding and Recommendation 4 – The Board of Supervisors agrees with the Grand Jury and Departmental response and is supportive of continued dialog between the Sheriff, Probation and Courts to mitigate issues concerning the safety of juvenile inmates awaiting Court appearances. Ideally the County would like to see the Courts conduct juvenile hearings at Juvenile Hall and is desirous of collaboration with the Courts to explore the need for a juvenile justice center adjacent to Juvenile Hall.***